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## Additional Resources

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- **American Retirees Association (ARA)**  
Briefs active duty member or retiree on support and/or division of property matters ..... (703) 527-3065
- **EXPOSE**  
Support/Lobbying Organization — publishes “A Guide for Military Separation or Divorce” ..... 499-5386
- **Information Services Division of The Planning Council**  
Divorce and separation support groups ..... 625-4543
- **What Women Need to Know About Divorce**  
Sponsored by the Women's Institute of Financial Education — conducts day and evening seminars ..... 456-1574
- **What Men Need to Know About Divorce**  
Sponsored by Virginia Fatherhood Initiative ..... 545-3237
- **Fleet and Family Support Centers of Hampton Roads Information and Referral:**

FFSC Dam Neck            492-7150

FFSC Little Creek        462-7563

FFSC Newport News      688-NAVY

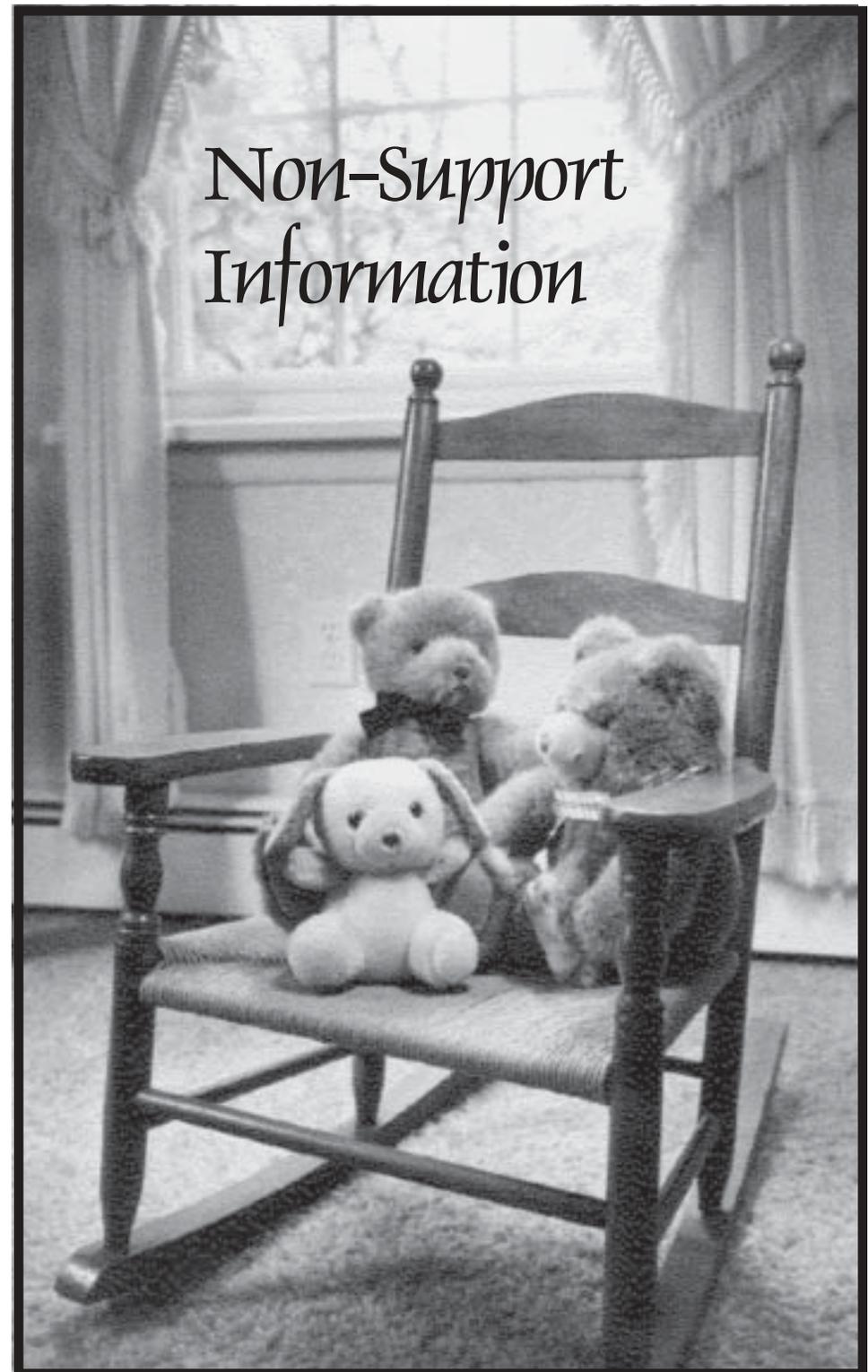
FFSC Norfolk            444-2102

FFSC Northwest         421-8770

FFSC Oceana             433-2912

FFSC Yorktown          887-4606

WEBSITE: [www.ffscnorva.navy.mil](http://www.ffscnorva.navy.mil)



As do all members of society, service members have a moral and legal obligation to provide adequate and continuous support for their legal family members. The majority of service members live up to the support obligation without any problems. However, there are times when spouses or children do not receive adequate support. If the couple has failed to come to a support agreement or the service member fails to pay the agreed-upon support payment, what are the options?

The Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) has suggested that contact be made with the service member's command regarding nonsupport of lawful dependents. Remind the command that the service member may lose his/her entitlement by failing to use the dependent Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) to support those for whom it was intended.

To receive payment directly from the Navy, **you must obtain a court order or an administrative order.**

Because of severe consequences to the family and service member, it is important to obtain assistance as soon as possible. The Legal Assistance Office can assist family members with complaints of nonsupport. Legal assistance is available on an appointment basis.

Coast Guard (Maintenance & Logistics Command) .....	628-4213
Fort Eustis .....	878-3217
Langley AFB .....	764-3277
Little Creek .....	462-4759
Norfolk .....	444-5053/3634
Oceana .....	433-2230

You should be aware that the Legal Assistance office cannot represent you in court. You may, therefore, want to retain an attorney. Look for an attorney who specializes in divorce or family law and is familiar with the military pay and allowance system. For referral to a civilian attorney, call the Virginia Lawyer Referral Service at 1-800-552-7977 or Ex-Partners of Servicemembers for Equality (EXPOSE) at 499-5386/440-1589.

Mediation, a voluntary settlement process, is an alternative way to settle differences. Rather than experience a costly courtroom battle, you can control the decisions that affect your family, your finances, and your life with the assistance of a mediator — an impartial person who helps people in conflict make practical, informed decisions to resolve the issues before them. Call a Fleet and Family Support Center for a listing of mediation services.

Juvenile and Domestic Relations Intake Services Unit can help with completing the paperwork necessary to file for custody of your child(ren) and/or support. Contact the office nearest you.

Chesapeake .....	382-8100/8170
Currituck County, NC .....	(252) 232-2218
Elizabeth City, NC .....	(252) 331-4751
Hampton .....	727-6357
Newport News .....	926-8781
Norfolk .....	664-7610
Portsmouth .....	393-8571
York County .....	890-3480/3487
Virginia Beach .....	427-4361/4362
Williamsburg, James City County .....	(757) 564-2460

Child Support Enforcement (CSE) has the authority to issue an administrative support order which has the same force of law as a court order. Call:

Albemarle (NC area) .....	(252) 331-4811
Chesapeake .....	548-2390
Dare/Manteo County, NC .....	(252) 449-4010
Hampton .....	865-8080
Newport News .....	1-800-462-8386
Norfolk .....	1-877-695-5497
Portsmouth .....	1-877-695-5499
Virginia Beach .....	1-877-695-5491

If court-ordered child or spousal support is past due by an amount equal to two months support, the custodial parent can enforce that order by obtaining a garnishment of the service member's pay (an involuntary allotment). In order for your withholding order to be processed, it must include the debtor's full legal name and Social Security Number. Also, please be sure to include your return address on any correspondence, not only on the mailing envelope. To do this, call or write:

**Defense Finance and Accounting Service Cleveland Center**

**Attn: DFAS-GAG/CL**

P.O. Box 998002

Cleveland, OH 44199-8002

1-866-859-1845 (toll-free customer service)

Garnishment Operations Hours are: 7:30AM to 6:00PM EST

Note: Check with DFAS-GAG/CL and/or a civilian attorney for current guidelines on collecting court-ordered child and spousal support.

Website: [www.dfas.mil/money/garnish](http://www.dfas.mil/money/garnish)